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An Exact RELATION of the most Remarkable Transactions that happened lately in *IRELAND*. With an Account of a great Sea-Fight between the *ENGLISH* and *FRENCH* Fleets.

Licensed and Entered according to Order.

THE late King *James*, or rather the *French* King *Lewis* having got into their hands all the Towns and Ports in *Ireland*, *London-Derry*, and *Inniskilling* excepted, and by that means ſtopt all Opportunities of Correſpondence, by the former Methods, we have no Advices thence, but what either come by way of *Scotland*, or elſe by Perſons who make their eſcape by Sea hither, as frequently ſome do even in *Gabbards*, *viz.* an open Veſſel not unlike our Lighters on the *Thames*.

Divers of which have arrived near *Cheſter*, *Liverpool*, and in the Weſt of *Scotland*, one of which lately arrived with 80 Paſſengers, who came from *London-Derry*, and ſay that Garriſon had made offers of Surrendring to the late King, on Conditions to carry off their Baggage, and have their Lives, which was at firſt accepted of; but Monſieur *D'Aveaux* who preſides in all Councils, would not conſent, alledging, That ſort of proceeding was not the way to arrive at the Conqueſt that muſt be made in that Kingdom, which hath ſo exaſperated and deſperated the Garriſon, as to reſolve to hearken to no Conditions, but ſtand it out to the laſt Man, or until it ſhall pleaſe God to give Opportunity for their being reinforced with ſuch ſufficient help as to be enabled to take the Field.

Our laſt Advices thence ſay, they are Beſieged by a great Army, but have 7000 Fighting Men in Garriſon, Arms, Amunition, and Proviſions for two Months, and doubt not of holding it, having in three Sallies killed many of the *Iriſh* and *French*, and amongſt the latter a General Officer, and it is believed e're this, that Major-General *Kirk*, Sir *John Trelawney*, and Sir *John Hanmore*, with their Regiments, and the Regiment, late Col. *Edgworth*'s, now the Earl of *Meath*'s, are got ſafe into *Derry*.

On Monday arrived at *Cheſter* Col. St. *George*, to Command the Regiment late Col. *Richards*, (a Serjent of which for deſerting did ſuffer Death the 7*th* Inſtant at *Cheſter*) and alſo Collonel *Stewart* to Command the Regiment, late Col. *Cunningham*'s now at *Liverpool*, and the ſame day went poſt for *London*, the Collonels that formerly Commanded them.

The Garriſon of *London-Derry* having (for what Cauſe not yet known) a Jealouſie that Col. *Lundee* their Governour was guilty of ſome Deſigns upon them, they confined him, and choſe another as you have heard; but their Rage continuing, and fearing every day to be hang'd, he found means to make his eſcape in a ſmall Veſſel, which putting in at *Grenoch* in the Weſt of *Scotland*, and being there known, and the Circumſtances he was under, the *Scots* ſecured him, and ſent him Priſoner to *Dumbritton* Caſtle, whence on the ſecond Inſtant he was brought to *Edinburgh*, and will there be Examined, Puniſhed, or Acquitted.

The brave Lord *Kingſton*, Col. *Buchan*, and divers Perſons of Quality are arrived from the North of *Ireland* to *Edinburgh*, and thence gone for *England*, to wait on the King: Some of theſe Gentlemen ſay, that the preſent State of the Proteſtants is ſcarce conceiveable, being ſurrounded with all ſorts of Miſeries, and labouring under all the Neceſſities of Humane Life, and the daily fears of Death by Barbarous hands, having no viſible deliverance under God, but from *England*: Theſe worthy Perſons kept together, and in divers Skirmiſhes killed many of the *Iriſh*, and defended their Families, Neighbours, and Friends, until Powder, Ball, and Proviſions failed, and the Enemy ſo far advanced, that they could not retreat ſo far as *Derry*, but Embarqued for *Scotland*, firſt killing all their fine Horſes, to prevent them falling into the Papiſts hands, Who give out, That when they have received their further Succours from *France*, and reduced to Obedience, the Heretical Rebels in *London-Derry*, and in *Inniskilling*, they are to march further Northward, and Embarque for *Scotland*: But by the Unanimous Zeal of the Convention and People of that Ancient Kingdom, their Expectation and Dependance hath deceived them, moſt of the Chiefs of *Clanns* or *Tribes* have freely offered their Service for the King and Eſtates, and the reſt Cited to give the Bond of Peace for themſelves and Vaſſals: Nay, the Viſcount of *Dundee* who hath with about 200 Horſe rode the length of *Murray* in the North, and amongſt the Duke of *Gordon*'s, and other of the Highland *Clanns* cannot get any to obey his Commands, or by Perſwaſion engage any Gentleman to joyn with him, no not the Papiſt *Highlanders*; and ſuch have been the Zeal and diſpatch of the Convention, that all the Militia both Officers and Souldiers are ſetled, and all good Proteſtants: And above all this, the Lord *Neile Campbell*, Sir *Hugh Campbell* of *Caddell*, and all the Nobility, Lords, and Lairds, whoſe Territories are in any Danger from an *Iriſh French* Invaſion, have applied to the Convention with Offers of raiſing and heading many Regiments without Charge to the Publick, which is accepted, and Powers given them ſo to do, and all the Militia put into Proteſtants Hands: So that it's believed an Army of 20000 Horſe and Foot will ſooner be in the North of *Ireland* from *Scotland*, than *Scotland* invaded by the *French* and *Iriſh* Army, whoſe very Names are become more odious then feared by the *Britiſh*.

The *French* Fleet having in *March* laſt Tranſported the late King into *Ireland*, returned back to *Breſt*, where they have lain ever ſince, and being increaſed unto near Forty Sail of all ſorts.

On Friday Morning, *April* the 26th ſet Sail again for *Ireland*, having on Board many Land-men, a great Sum of Money, Arms, and Ammunition, ſteering for *Kingſale*, and were met on Monday the 29th at eight at Night, ſeven Leagues Weſtward of

of the Cape of *Ireland* near the Shore, the Wind at East, by Mr. *Andrew Hopkins* Commander of the *Adventure* of *Byddiford*, homewards bound from *Mary-Land* with Tobacco, who ſays they were in all 37 Sail, whereof 20 Capital Ships, 8 Fire-Ships, the reſt Tenders, and Fly-Boats with Souldiers, one of them made Sail after *Hopkins*, who braced to his Sails, and ſtaid for him, but the *French* Admiral fireing a Gun the Frigat left the perſuite, and bore up to the Fleet, who made but a ſlack Sail, moſt of them having their Top-Sails on the Cap, and all in a Line in a fighting poſture, and believes they were deſigned for the North of *Ireland*.

On Tueſday about eight in the Morning, *April* the 30th, Mr. *Hopkins* met one of Admiral *Herbert*'s Scouts who commanded him on Board, and afterwards went to the Admiral, and gave him a deſcription of the *French* Fleet, and that they were then about 10 Leagues to Leeward of our Fleet, upon which the Sea-men gave a very great Shout, and made all preparations to engage them, making alſo all the Sail they could: Our Fleet conſiſted of 26 Sail without the Fire-Ships who were left in *Milford* Haven, being very Leaky; when Mr. *Hopkins* left our Fleet, ſome of his Men from the Top-maſt head diſcovered 8 Sail which he believed were part of the ſaid *French* Fleet, and that our Fleet met them that Evening; and further ſays, the *French* could not Land their Men, *&c.* thereabouts.

On Tueſday laſt the *Mary*, Captain *Matthew Aylmer* Commander, came to the *Spithead*, and came aſhore at *Portſmouth*, whence he immediately took Poſt for the Court, to give his Majeſty an account of the Engagement that enſued on Wedneſday *May* the firſt, as Follows; the *Engliſh* Admiral finding them on Tueſday Night got all into the Bay of *Bantrey*, lay by all Night, and next Morning by break of Day ſtood in upon them, and with 8 or 9 Sail made a deſperate Fight againſt 28 Sail of the *French*, and five Fire-Ships, with all the diſadvantages imaginable, the Enemy having the Wind, and the *Engliſh* not able to make uſe of their lower Tyre of Guns, yet nevertheleſs maintain'd the Fight for many hours, and at five at Night ſtood off to Sea, and the *French* at the ſame time tacking from them, by which it's gueſſed they have received great loſs of Men, and damage in their Ships, and had not then Landed either Men, Money, Arms, or Ammunition; which two reaſons may be given for; the one, that they purſued not the Advantage they had by Numbers and Wind; or elſe according to their conſtant practice by Land and Sea, not to hazard Men or Ships without inevitable Neceſſity; their work then being to Land Succours, not fight.

Letters of the third Inſtant from our Fleet ſay, the *French* were in the Bay, ſo near the Shore, that they could not get to Windward of them, that five of their Capital Ships were at one time upon the *Elizabeth*, Admiral *Herbert*'s Ship, and the *Pendennis*, Capt. *Cloudſly Shovel*'s Ship, but cleared themſelves bravely; the Admiral is much damaged in his Sails and Rigging, and loſt 20 or 30 Men, the *Pendennis* not ſo many, Captain *Aſhby* in the *Edgar* 60 or 70, Captain *Aylmer* in the *Portland* is killed, and 14 or 15 of his Men.

They have ſunk two of the *French* Capital Ships and killed many of their Men, that five of the *Engliſh* Ships chiefly bore four hours hot Engagement, the reſt not being able to come up to them.

Letters from *Exon* of the 8th Inſtant ſay, Admiral *Herbert* is come into *Plymouth*, and that they have ſunk the *French Admiral*, and one more, and that the *Engliſh* are refitting their Sails, and Rigging, in which they ſuffered the moſt Damage.

Letters from *Cheſter* of the 8th Inſtant ſay, the Advice-Boat with an Expreſs from the King to *London-Derry* that went off from *Liverpool* the 30th paſt, is come back, and gives account that the *Iriſh* Coaſt was full of Souldiers, but however with ſome difficulty, by help of a Man of War ſent in the Expreſs, which when received by direction, they were to give three Huzzaes, which they did, and made great rejoycing for it, drinking their Majeſties Healths in Spring Water; and it's ſaid have aſſured the King by Expreſs back, they will hold out to the laſt, and want neither Ammunition nor Proviſions, and in three late Sallies on the Beſiegers, have killed 400, and retreated each time with little loſs.

And this Week is come to Town one Mr. *Web* a moſt worthy, Grave, and Reverend Divine, who is Miniſter of *Inniskilling* in *Ireland*, who having Proclaimed King *William* and Queen *Mary*, and publickly Prayed for them, enraged the Papiſts to that height, that the Lord *Galmoy* at the head of ſome thouſands of *Iriſh* were drawing towards the place, threatning to hang up the ſaid Miniſter higher than *Haman* was, and to put the reſt to the Sword. But they fear him not, having 2000 Men well Armed in the place, and Ammunition and Proviſions for ſome Months, yet ſuch was their reſpect and tenderneſs to this worthy Divine, that they even forced him to withdraw, leaſt Time and Accidents might force them to Surrender into the hands of thoſe who would have no Mercy on him; ſo he eſcaped to *London-Derry*, and there got ten Barrels of Powder to be ſent to *Inniskilling*.

Since the arrival of Captain *Aylmer* (Brother to the late Captain *Aylmer* that was kill'd in the Fight) who brought the Account to the King of the Engagement, divers Letters are come, which confirm the former Relations, and ſome with this Addition, That the next day after the Fight they took two ſmall *French* Veſſels, who were making homewards with Advice of the Action: The Priſoners do declare, that their Admiral was killed, and two of their Capital Ships ſunk, 12 diſabled, and a great number of their Men killed and wounded, and that they all highly applaud the Courage of the *Engliſh* Sea-men, and bravery of their Commanders. Admiral *Herbert* is certainly come into *Plymouth*, much diſabled, and the other diſabled Ships into *Portſmouth*, where all handsare put to refit them, to joyn the *Dutch* Fleet, which are paſſed Weſtward, conſiſting of 28 Sail of Capital Ships, 10 Fire-ſhips, and ſome Tenders.

LONDON:

Printed for *J. Morris* in *Fleet-ſtreet.* MDCLXXXIX.

08-1927